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Follow-up to the recommendations of the Permanent Forum

Compilation of information from Member States on addressing the recommendations of the Permanent Forum

Note by the Secretariat

Summary

The present report is a compilation of the responses received from Member States to a questionnaire on action taken to implement the recommendations of the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues and the recommendations contained in the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples and the outcome document of the high-level plenary meeting of the General Assembly known as the World Conference on Indigenous Peoples. The questionnaire and the full responses from Member States are available on the website of the Permanent Forum (www.un.org/development/desa/indigenouspeoples/unpfii-sessions-2/unpfii-fifteenth-session.html).

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I. Introduction

1. As at 1 February 2016, the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues had received written responses from Australia, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Chile, Denmark and Greenland, Mexico, Norway, Paraguay and Peru, to its questionnaire on action taken or planned to address and implement the recommendations of the Permanent Forum and the recommendations contained in the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples and the outcome document of the high-level plenary meeting of the General Assembly known as the World Conference on Indigenous Peoples.

2. The questionnaire, containing seven questions, was prepared by the secretariat in consultation with members of the Permanent Forum.[1] The first question was a request for information on how States were addressing the recommendations made by the Forum at its fourteenth session and those from previous sessions, with a special focus on indigenous women. The second question related to obstacles that Governments might have encountered in implementing the recommendations of the Forum. The third question was a request for information on the factors that facilitated implementation by Governments of the recommendations of the Forum.

3. In the fourth question, Member States were requested to comment on the theme of the fifteenth session, "Indigenous peoples: conflict, peace and resolution". In the fifth question, they were asked to provide information on their activities to promote and implement the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples. In the sixth question, they were asked whether they collected disaggregated statistical data on indigenous peoples and whether that information was accessible.

4. The first part of the seventh question concerned the implementation of the outcome document of the high-level plenary meeting of the General Assembly known as the World Conference on Indigenous Peoples, in particular, the preparation of national action plans, strategies or other measures to achieve the aims of the United Nations Declaration. In the second part of the seventh question Member States were requested to provide information on how the United Nations system could best support the efforts of the Government to achieve the aims of the United Nations Declaration.

II. Responses of Member States to the questionnaire

1. Briefly state what recommendations from the fourteenth session of the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues[2] or recommendations from previous sessions (not included in your previous reports) have been addressed by your Government. Where possible, also provide information on the situation of indigenous women

5. The response of Australia to the questionnaire for the fourteenth session of the Permanent Forum had comprehensively outlined policy and programme initiatives

[1] The questionnaire was sent to the 193 Member States of the United Nations; eight responses were received.

[2] The following paragraphs of the report on the fourteenth session of the Permanent Forum (E/2015/43) contain recommendations addressed to Member States: 6, 8, 10, 13, 18, 22, 28, 29, 31, 32, 33, 35, 36, 40 and 41.

for indigenous Australians, in line with the aspirations of the United Nations Declaration on Indigenous Peoples and the outcome document of the United Nations World Conference on Indigenous Peoples. Australia also addressed the recommendations of the Forum.

6. In its response for the fifteenth session of the Permanent Forum, Australia provided new and updated information relating to specific thematic recommendations. Australia welcomed the focus of the Forum on addressing self-harm and suicide among indigenous children and youth, recognizing the devastation that could be caused in indigenous communities and cited its National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Suicide Prevention Strategy, which engages the Australian Government with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples in developing culturally appropriate strategies. Australia had also launched the Implementation Plan for the National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Plan, in which action was outlined regarding mental health, improving the "patient journey" and making the health system culturally safer and more effective for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.

7. Australia was working to support food security in remote communities by ensuring that stores offered healthy options and implemented good retail practices with the broader objective of improving the health and well-being of Aboriginal and Torres Islander peoples. Initiatives that the Government of Australia had implemented included the community stores licensing scheme, which regulated prices and maintained an ongoing level of access for remote communities in the Northern Territory. The second initiative was aimed at supporting traditional land management practices to improve biodiversity, community health and food and water security; reinvigorating cultural and social traditions; enhancing human capital; and strengthening capacity to adapt to climate change.

8. Australia supported the continued focus of the Permanent Forum on indigenous women as a highly disadvantaged group, vulnerable to a range of socioeconomic ills, including violence. The Government had recently announced a $100 million women's safety package. All initiatives funded as part of the package provided support to indigenous women experiencing violence, in addition to the Government's existing commitment, through the Indigenous Advancement Strategy to reduce indigenous family violence.

9. The Ministry of Education in the Plurinational State of Bolivia, through the office of intercultural and plurilingual policies had drawn up educational and strategic policies with indigenous peoples' organizations, including a "plurinational curriculum" aimed at promoting interculturality, decolonization, productivity and participation among indigenous communities. In 2015, indigenous language institutes were established for the Uru, Moseten, Baure and Ese peoples. Every year, 350 scholarships are given for low-income indigenous students.

10. In March 2014, a decree of the Ministry of Social Development of Chile on consultation with indigenous peoples entered into force, following on from which, a consultation process had been initiated focusing on the establishment of the Ministry of Indigenous Peoples, responsible for preparing a national policy and coordinating action to protect the rights of indigenous peoples. The President of Chile had signed the proposed law and submitted it to the National Congress for approval. The draft law also called for the establishment of a consultative council composed of nine indigenous peoples' groups, recognized as autonomous entities by

Law No. 19253. This initiative would create an institutional mechanism to strengthen indigenous peoples' policies at the highest level and recognize indigenous peoples' social, economic and cultural rights.

11. The Ministry of Social Development of Chile was working in cooperation with the network of Mapuche Women of Chile to strengthen the capacities and participation of indigenous women.

12. Norway reported that few of the recommendations of the Permanent Forum were directly applicable to the Norwegian context. With regard to the situation of indigenous women, reference was made to the eighth periodic report of Norway on the implementation of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW/C/NOR/8).

13. Denmark and Greenland found that the recommendations made by the Permanent Forum at its fourteenth session were not directly applicable to the context of Denmark and Greenland. However, recommendation No. 6 on the follow-up to the outcome document of the World Conference on Indigenous Peoples was of general relevance. Denmark and Greenland had both participated at a second Nordic expert meeting on the follow-up to the World Conference on Indigenous Peoples on 15 December 2015, with the participation of indigenous representatives, which focused on the question of indigenous peoples' participation at the United Nations and the review of the mandate of the Expert Mechanism on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples.

14. In Mexico, the new Advisory Council of the National Commission for the Development of Indigenous Peoples began its work for the period 2015-2018 in March 2015. The Advisory Council is a consultation mechanism made up of indigenous peoples and civil society. It is composed of 68 representatives of indigenous peoples, among others. The Advisory Council had established a working group on international issues that would define action to implement the outcome document of the World Conference on Indigenous Peoples, in cooperation with indigenous peoples' organizations.

15. Following on from this, Mexico was taking legislative measures, within the framework of article 38 of the United Nations Declaration, to harmonize its legislation in accordance with articles 1 and 2 of the Mexican constitution, the United Nations Declaration and International Labour Organization (ILO) Indigenous and Tribal Peoples Convention, 1989 (No. 169). To date, 23[3] of the 32 States had taken measures to include indigenous peoples' rights in their State constitutions; while 24[4] States had adopted specific legislation on indigenous issues. The process had been conducted in consultation and cooperation with indigenous peoples to guarantee their right to self-determination.

16. Peru had created a database on indigenous peoples. The aim of the database was to promote the process of recognition of the cultural diversity of indigenous

[3] Report of Mexico, p. 3: Baja California Sur, Campeche, Chiapas, Chihuahua, Colima, Durango, Estado de México, Guerrero, Hidalgo, Jalisco, Michoacán, Morelos, Nayarit, Nuevo León, Oaxaca, Puebla, Querétaro, Quintana Roo, San Luis Potosí, Sonora, Tabasco, Veracruz and Yucatán.

[4] Ibid.: Baja California, Campeche, Chiapas, Chihuahua, Colima, Durango, Estado de México, Guanajuato, Guerrero, Hidalgo, Jalisco, Morelos, Nayarit, Nuevo León, Oaxaca, Puebla, Querétaro, Quintana Roo, San Luis Potosí, Sonora, Tabasco, Tlaxcala, Veracruz and Yucatán.

peoples in order to strengthen the recognition of their rights as citizens. In 2011, Peru adopted Law 29785, which provided that indigenous peoples had the right to be consulted with regard to any activity, plan, administrative or legal measure, or development or project that would involve, affect or take place in their ancestral territories. To date, 23 consultation processes with indigenous peoples had been carried out, 11 of which had been concluded, with, in seven cases, an agreement being reached between indigenous peoples' organizations and the State. Five consultation processes were in progress. These processes provided an opportunity for indigenous peoples to participate in decision-making and to incorporate their development priorities into the national agenda.

17. Peru had also established a permanent dialogue mechanism between indigenous peoples and the Government. The United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), ILO and the office of the Ombudsman participated actively in the mechanism. Its aim was to coordinate, propose and follow up on public policies related to indigenous peoples. Peru was also working on the preparation of an action plan with an intercultural approach to HIV/AIDS.

18. Peru had established four intercultural universities and the Government was currently carrying out a consultation process related to the national education plan. There were 7 national indigenous organizations participating in this process, representing 55 different indigenous peoples' groups.

19. In order to strengthen its policies on indigenous peoples, Paraguay had prepared a draft law to create a national ministry for indigenous peoples. Following a consultation process with indigenous peoples' organizations, a protocol on consultation and free, prior and informed consent had been drafted. The Paraguayan Institute for Indigenous Peoples was leading a dialogue mechanism through which indigenous peoples could participate in national development processes.

20. The Supreme Court of Justice of Paraguay, together with indigenous peoples' organizations, was organizing workshops on intercultural dialogue and legal pluralism with a special focus on criminal proceedings. Paraguay was working on the implementation of a multilingual education programme (2013-2018) related to indigenous peoples in coordination with the United Nations Children's Fund and other institutions.

21. Between 2010 and 2014, 283,996 hectares were deeded to indigenous peoples. The Paraguayan Institute for Indigenous Peoples had a registry of indigenous territories. The Ministry for Women was, together with UNDP, the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN-Women) and other institutions, promoting the right of indigenous women to participate as representative candidates and to strengthen their participation in decision-making processes.

2. What are some of the obstacles your Government has encountered in implementing the recommendations of the Permanent Forum?

22. Australia did not mention any specific obstacles but recognized that significant challenges remained. The Government was committed to a long-term agenda of equality and opportunity for all Australians.

23. In Chile the consultation process with indigenous peoples was ongoing. However, government officials faced difficulties in addressing conflict situations among indigenous peoples. The Government, through the Ministry of Social Development, had therefore established a course on "managing conflicts and negotiating with indigenous peoples", the aim of which was to strengthen the skills, capacity and approach of government officials to communicate with indigenous peoples, keeping in mind their cultural specificity.

24. Mexico indicated that it was challenging to link the recommendations of the Permanent Forum with achieving the aims of the United Nations Declaration and the commitments adopted in the outcome document of the World Conference on Indigenous Peoples.

25. Norway found the number of adopted recommendations per session to be very high and that there was a need for more targeted and precise recommendations that would facilitate their consideration and implementation at the national level.

26. Denmark and Greenland noted that a key function of the Permanent Forum was to provide recommendations of general relevance with benchmarks. In order to ensure their impact, the Forum should issue fewer recommendations and give priority to their follow-up. It was also noted that recommendations could have set benchmarks and targets and be supplemented with a short background note with, inter alia, suggestions for implementation. Denmark and Greenland also recommended limiting recommendations to five per session.

27. Peru recognized that one of the main obstacles was the lack of official information on the socioeconomic situation of indigenous peoples. In 2017, Peru would carry out a census, including a question on self-identification for indigenous peoples, which would help to bring greater visibility to the actual situation of indigenous peoples. Another obstacle was the lack of awareness and interest on the part of many public institutions, as well as difficult geographical access to some indigenous communities.

28. Paraguay reported that the principal obstacle for the implementation of the recommendations of the Permanent Forum was that of financial constraints.

3. What are some of the factors that facilitate your Government's implementation of the recommendations of the Permanent Forum?

29. The Government of Australia sought to engage and work in partnership with the First Peoples of Australia in the facilitation of initiatives echoing the recommendations of the Permanent Forum. Engagement and partnership was a factor in increasing positive outcomes and opportunities.

30. Chile found that one of the factors that facilitated the implementation of the recommendations of the Permanent Forum was the establishment of consultation processes.

31. Mexico indicated that linking the recommendations of the Permanent Forum to specific articles of the United Nations Declaration facilitated its implementation at the national level.

32. Peru reported that reforms to its legislation related to indigenous peoples had contributed to the implementation of their rights. In October 2015, Peru had adopted

a national policy for mainstreaming an intercultural approach which was aimed at recognizing and guarantee the rights of culturally diverse groups, in particular indigenous peoples. The application of the policy is mandatory for all State agencies and institutions.

33. Paraguay noted that dialogue mechanisms between government authorities and indigenous peoples' organizations facilitated the implementation of the recommendations of the Permanent Forum.

4. The theme of the fifteenth session of the Permanent Forum, in 2016, will be "Indigenous peoples: conflict, peace and resolution". Briefly state how your Government deals with this issue with regard to indigenous peoples

34. The Australian Government believed in acknowledging the long and enduring history of indigenous peoples, as the original occupants of Australia, and the integral place of the First Peoples in the life of the nation. On 7 December 2015, a referendum council had been announced which would advise the Prime Minister of Australia and the leader of the opposition on progress and the next steps towards a successful referendum on this subject.

35. In Chile the dialogue mechanisms helped to prevent conflicts and to seek solutions where conflicts existed. The dialogue mechanisms had also been useful in discussing legislative and administrative measures affecting indigenous peoples.

36. Norway had established different mechanisms that allowed for dialogue between State authorities and the Sámediggi (the Sami parliament). This ensured that work on matters that might affect the Sami people was carried out in a satisfactory manner.

37. Denmark and Greenland had established the Reconciliation Commission, with the goal of reconciliation among the population of Greenland. The Reconciliation Commission had initiated various activities to uncover cultural and societal challenges resulting from the colonial heritage, which was a cause of tension, even today.

38. Until 1963 (1974 for North and East Greenland) the legislation for Greenland did not contain rules on the paternity of children born out of wedlock, and children born out of wedlock thus had no right to inheritance from their fathers. The term "legally fatherless" was used when referring to such persons. In 2014 the Danish Parliament passed an act aimed at improving the legal status of "legally fatherless" children by giving them the opportunity to initiate proceedings to legally determine the identity of their biological fathers. Paternity established according to these rules had the same legal consequences as ordinary paternity, including normal inheritance rights. A number of "legally fatherless" Greenlanders had been in a difficult situation for many years. When adopting the act on the "legally fatherless", the Danish Parliament thus called for a number of initiatives concerning this group, including identifying the human consequences of having been "legally fatherless" and offering assistance to help them with to come to terms with having been in that situation. A joint working group, with the participation of the Greenlandic and Danish authorities, had been established to follow up on these initiatives.

5. Please provide information on how your Government currently promotes and/or implements the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples

39. Australia had supported the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples since 2009 and regularly reported on overall action taken to give effect to the United Nations Declaration. Internationally the Australian Indigenous Peoples Strategy supported indigenous peoples through foreign affairs, trade policy and development objectives. Australia was always working to build people-to-people links and economic cooperation between Australia and the world in helping to provide benefits for indigenous Australians. Australia was always working with its partners, including foreign Governments and international and regional organizations, to influence international policy to advance the interests of indigenous peoples in the world community.

40. Australia supported initiatives that built on indigenous traditional knowledge and practices in managing land and sea country and was sharing this knowledge internationally to assist other indigenous peoples in the management of their environments. The World Network of Indigenous Peoples and Local Community Land and Sea Managers allowed indigenous peoples to share their knowledge and practices in managing ecosystems, protecting the environment and supporting sustainable livelihoods.

41. On 10 August 2015, the Plurinational State of Bolivia had commemorated the International Day of the World's Indigenous People with the participation of indigenous peoples' representatives and members of the international cooperation and diplomatic communities. During the commemoration, government representatives highlighted and shared information on plans, policies and programmes relating to indigenous peoples for the implementation of the United Nations Declaration.

42. In September 2015, in line with article 4 of the United Nations Declaration, the Plurinational State of Bolivia had carried out a referendum on whether two departments, Totora Marka in Oruro and Charagua in Santa Cruz, should become autonomous indigenous territories. The Charagua approved the statute of autonomy with 53 per cent of the vote; however it was rejected in Totora Marka.

43. In November 2014, by decree 2195, the Plurinational State of Bolivia had established a compensation mechanism in relation to hydrocarbon projects which have a negative impact on indigenous peoples' communities or on their environment. The Government had been working on the regularization of indigenous territories and, since 2006, the structure of agrarian property had been reformed. Currently, most of the land was in the hands of indigenous peoples' communities (23.9 million hectares).

44. In 2015, the Plurinational State of Bolivia promoted and guaranteed the participation of indigenous peoples in national and international sports events as part of the policy of the current Government to promote sports under article 31 of the United Nations Declaration.

45. Chile was promoting the implementation of the United Nations Declaration through consultation processes with indigenous peoples as well as organizing

training for government officials in order to generate momentum towards the full recognition and protection of indigenous peoples' rights.

46. Mexico highlighted that the United Nations Declaration was the main instrument that guided the design and implementation of government policies with regard to the development of indigenous peoples, including the participation and consultation processes to ensure free, prior and informed consent, as stipulated in article 19. Under the National Development Plan 2013-2018, the National Commission for the Development of Indigenous Peoples Special Programme for Indigenous Peoples 2014-2018 was the policy that guided access to education, health, housing, basic infrastructure and income.

47. In Norway, at the national level, the rights of the Sami were protected through the Government's obligations under several international conventions, in particular article 27 of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and the ILO Indigenous and Tribal Peoples Convention, 1989 (No. 169).

48. Norway's International Climate and Forest Initiative had been launched in 2007, aimed at reducing greenhouse gas emissions resulting from deforestation and forest degradation in developing countries. A dedicated grant mechanism for indigenous peoples and local communities had also been established under the Forest Investment Programme to provide grants for indigenous peoples and local communities in the relevant countries.

49. In Denmark, indigenous peoples' rights remained an overall high priority in Danish foreign policy. At the multilateral level, Denmark had promoted the rights of indigenous peoples in relevant international processes, such as the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, the twenty-first session of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change and the high-level conference on the European Union and sustainability in global value chains.

50. Peru continued its work against racial discrimination, including the participation of indigenous peoples in decision-making processes and the recognition of indigenous peoples in the official registers of the State.

6. Does your national statistics agency or a similar public entity collect disaggregated statistical data about indigenous peoples? If so, please provide practical information on how to access this information (i.e. website address, publications or other sources of information)

51. The Australian Bureau of Statistics conducted national surveys, including surveys specifically on indigenous Australians. The surveys included the National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Social Survey and the National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Survey. The Bureau also collected a range of other data on social and economic indicators, including through the national Census of Population and Housing, and published information disaggregated by indigenous status when the data was of sufficient quality. The data from these collections may be accessed via the Bureau website (www.abs.gov.au).

52. Information collected by the Australian Institute of Health and Welfare, a national agency that provides information and statistics on national health and

welfare issues, including a range of data sources and reports disaggregated by indigenous status, may be found at its website (www.aihw.gov.au).

53. The Government of Australia supported a range of national reporting mechanisms that included data and analysis disaggregated by indigenous status, drawing on data from the Australian Bureau of Statistics, the Australian Institute of Health and Welfare and other sources. One such example was the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Performance Framework biennial report series (since 2006), which had been developed to inform policy and planning in indigenous health. The report contains a high-level summary of data, research and policy analysis for 68 performance measures across three tiers: health status and outcomes; determinants of health including socioeconomic and behavioural factors; and health system performance (the 2014 report may be accessed from www.dpmc.gov.au/indigenous-affairs/publication/aboriginal-and-torres-strait-islander-health-performance-framework-2014-report).

54. The Plurinational State of Bolivia has promoted an important process, with the issuance of individual identity cards for 30 distinct indigenous peoples in 242 communities in nine departments through which they have obtained ownership title and representation rights before administrative and judicial bodies. From 2010 to 2015 the Office of General Identity Services provided 78,802 identity cards for indigenous peoples.

55. The Government of the Plurinational State of Bolivia has been working on the registration of lands and territories that belonged to indigenous peoples in order to regularize their ownership rights. In that regard, 16 technical reports and certificates have been submitted to the National Institute of Agrarian Reform: 7 in Chuquisaca, 4 in La Paz, 1 in Cochabamba and 4 in Oruro. The certificates allow indigenous peoples to regularize their land rights.

56. The Ministry of Social Development in Chile was responsible for the National Socioeconomic Survey. In January 2015 the Government published the results of the survey, including important data on the number of indigenous peoples in the country, their distribution, income, wealth, work, education, health, use of indigenous languages, use of technology and participation in social organizations (the results are available at http:observatorio.ministeriodesarrollosocial.gob.cl/casen/casen_obj.php).

57. Mexico has a system of information and indicators for the indigenous population which included basic information on indigenous peoples' groups; and socioeconomic and gender perspective indicators (the system may be accessed at www.gob.mx/cdi).

58. The Mexican National Institute of Geography and Statistics periodically collected, through population and housing censuses, statistical information on people who speak an indigenous language. The 2015 inter-census poll identified the indigenous population on the basis of two criteria: language and self-identification. The results were published on 8 December 2015 and may be found at the Institute's website. Other data collection tools that included indigenous languages as criteria were censuses on governance, public security, access to justice and violence against women (see www.gob.mx/cdi/documentos/indicadores-de-la-poblacion-indigena).

59. No registers based on ethnicity were kept in Norway. The exception was the electoral role of the Sami parliament/Samediggi that was maintained for elections to the Samediggi. In recent years, Statistics Norway had developed informative statistics on the Sami population and every other year issues a publication, entitled

Sami Statistics, containing data on population, education, language and working life. The publication was first issued on Sami People's Day, 6 February, in 2006, and has since been issued on the same date in 2008, 2010, 2012 and 2014. The publication was issued in Norwegian and North Sami (see http://www.ssb.no/en/befolkning/statistikker/samisk/hvert-2-aar/2014-02-06).

60. In Denmark the Danish National Centre for Social Research has published various reports and surveys on the situation of Greenlanders living in Denmark but has not disaggregated data concerning indigenous peoples.

61. In Greenland, Statistics Greenland has published an annual statistical yearbook containing wide-ranging statistics and information about Greenlandic society and disaggregated data on indigenous peoples.

62. Peru has recognized self-identification and language as criteria to determine who is indigenous. The Ministry of Culture is responsible for indigenous peoples' issues and participates as a member of the Inter-institutional Technical Committee on Ethnicity Statistics, the goal of which is to develop a methodology to develop an ethnic statistics system. The Vice-Ministry of Interculturality was in charge of a database on indigenous peoples. Currently the database contains information on 55 different indigenous groups.

63. In 2012, Paraguay organized the Third National Indigenous Census. The results of the Census were published by the Department of Statistics, Surveys and Censuses (see http://www.dgeec.gov.py/).

7 (a) In the outcome document of the 2014 World Conference on Indigenous Peoples (General Assembly resolution 69/2) the Assembly invites the United Nations system to "... to support the implementation, upon request, of national action plans, strategies or other measures to achieve the ends of the ..." United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (para. 32)

64. Paraguay reported that, in August 2015, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs had organized a workshop entitled "Promoting political dialogue among indigenous peoples, Governments and the United Nations system to follow up on the World Conference on Indigenous Peoples" in order to begin the political dialogue on the implementation of the outcome document of the World Conference on Indigenous Peoples. The secretariat of the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues, the International Fund for Agricultural Development and the International Working Group on Indigenous Affairs were participating in the ongoing process.

65. In accordance with the outcome document of the World Conference on Indigenous Peoples, in December 2015, the Plurinational State of Bolivia had developed the Social and Economic Development Plan for Indigenous Peoples (2016-2020) incorporating indigenous peoples' rights. The Government is working on a strategic action plan for the compliance of indigenous peoples' rights in order to promote intersectoral action.

66. The Mexican National Commission for the Development of Indigenous Peoples, in cooperation with the Foreign Affairs Secretary and in consultation with indigenous peoples, was in the process of developing a national action plan to implement the outcome document of the World Conference on Indigenous Peoples.

In that regard, it was highlighted that the system-wide action plan to ensure a coherent approach to achieving the aims of the United Nations Declaration would guide the United Nations country team action to support national Governments in developing the action plans at national level. Mexico stated that the United Nations system technical advice on the process was crucial.

67. Norway has initiated a dialogue with the Samediggi (Sami parliament) on the follow-up to the implementation of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples and the World Conference on Indigenous Peoples.

7 (b) Please provide information on how the United Nations system (at all levels) could best support your Government's efforts to achieve the ends of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples

68. Australia supports the reform of the Permanent Forum as described in paragraph 42 of the report on the fourteenth session (E/2015/43-E/C.19/2015/10), in order to enhance its effectiveness and efficiency, including through a reduction in the number and specific targeting of recommendations. In general, Australia supports further clarity and less duplication in the work and recommendations of the Permanent Forum and other forums such as the Expert Mechanism on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples.

69. Chile recommended that the United Nations mechanisms on the rights of indigenous peoples: (a) carry out studies related to concrete issues that are affecting indigenous peoples; (b) prepare clear guidelines for the application of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples; (c) provide support and technical assistance to Member States in the evaluation of their progress made to overcome obstacles to achieve the goals of the United Nations Declaration; (d) formulate interpretations and particular observations related to the goals of the Declaration; (e) share good practices of Member States that had been successful; and (f) promote the realization of seminars and forums among the academic world, civil society, government representatives and indigenous peoples in order to discuss the improvement of the mandate of the United Nations mechanisms on the rights of indigenous peoples.

70. Norway recommended that the United Nations system provide more guidance and technical assistance, as necessary, for the realization of the Sustainable Development Goals related to indigenous peoples, including the development of indicators and tools to measure progress at the national and international level.